

Young hostesses overpower hijacker

BRISBANE, Australia, June 8 (R) — Four young airline hostesses today overpowered a hijacker armed with a double-barrelled shotgun who was holding them hostage in an airliner at Brisbane Airport. The girls, all in their twenties, jumped the hijacker after he had kept them at gunpoint in the passenger cabin for an hour. They managed to hold him until the pilot and first officer could help them disarm him. The 41 passengers had earlier been allowed by the hijacker to leave the aircraft. Police said the man, in his forties and of Scottish descent, was in custody and there were no injuries. The drama began when the plane, a DC-9 belonging to Australia's state-run domestic company Trans Australia Airlines (TAA), was hijacked. During the 40-minute flight the man had shouted obscenities at other passengers and then pulled out the shotgun and grabbed a hostess five minutes before the plane was due to land.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية - مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الراي"

Arabs threaten action against Canada

DAMASCUS, June 8 (Agencies) — High-level contacts are underway among Arab governments to impose collective sanctions against Canada if it moved its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Arab diplomatic sources reported today. They said the sanctions are most likely to be decided at an Arab League ministerial council meeting in Tunis June 21. Several Arab countries have condemned the Canadian plan which was promised by Prime Minister Joe Clark during his election campaign, and warned that its implementation would affect Canada's relations with the Arabs. Nine Arab countries have threatened reprisals. In a statement after a meeting with Canadian External Affairs Minister Flora MacDonald in Ottawa yesterday ambassadors from Sudan, Somalia, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon said they hoped Canada would not go ahead "with an action which would deeply affect Canadian-Arab relations."

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AMMAN, SATURDAY JUNE 9, 1979 — RAJAB 14, 1399

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Iran banks nationalised

TEHRAN, June 8 (R) — Iran announced today it had nationalised all the country's private banks, whose foreign debts are estimated at about one billion dollars.

The takeover was made public over state radio by Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan.

Mr. Bazargan said the government decided on nationalisation, effective from yesterday, "in view of the undesirable and unprofitable condition of the banks, to protect national rights and wealth and to get the wheels of the economy moving."

The prime minister did not say what would happen to foreign capital invested in 14 Iranian private banks, but the foreign banking community in Tehran braced itself to start negotiating for compensation.

Banking experts here estimated that investment by British, U.S., Dutch, West German, French, Italian, Japanese, Soviet and Arab banks in the Iranian private banking sector amounted to about \$100 million.

"Half of the Iranian private banks should have gone bankrupt four months ago. The ones which kept going only did so thanks to heavy assistance from the Central Bank," a western banker commented.

The biggest foreign investment is estimated to have been the Soviet Union's 100 per cent ownership of the Russo-Iran Bank through the State Bank of the U.S.S.R. and the Soviet Bank for Foreign Trade.

The Russo-Iran's assets amounted to 16.6 billion rials (\$337 million), according to the 1978 balance sheets.

Banks with foreign capital include:

International Bank of Iran (Chase Manhattan)
Bank Dariush (Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago)

Bank Etebarat Iran (Credit Lyonnais, Banque Nationale de Paris Intercontinentale, Credit Industriel et Commercial, Sanwa Bank of Japan)

Iranians' Bank (Citibank)
Iran-Arab Bank (Bank of Credit and Commerce International)

Irano-British Bank (Standard and Chartered Banking Group)

Bank of Iran and the Middle East (British Bank of the Middle East)

The Mercantile Bank of Iran and Holland (Algemene Bank Nederland)

The Foreign Trade Bank (Bank of America, Banca Commerciale Italiana, Deutsche Bank)

Bank of Tehran (Ottoman Bank, Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas-France, Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas-Suisse, Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas-Belgique, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro)

Bank Russo-Iran (State Bank of the USSR and the USSR Bank for Foreign Trade)

There are also foreign shareholdings in two development banks. These are:

The Industrial and Mining Development Bank of Iran (19 leading banks).

The Development and Investment Bank of Iran (First Boston Europe Ltd, Dresdner Bank, Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, Mellon Bank and Williams and Glyn's Bank).

Nationalisation of the banking system had been one of the main points in a new draft constitution leaked to the press last April, but the news took most bankers by surprise.

Dr. Bazargan said that although the measure was effective, official announcement had been delayed to coincide with today's anniversary of the birth of the Caliph Ali, son-in-law of the Prophet Mohammad.

The moaagement of all private banks has been suspended and banks will be shut to the public on Saturday and Sunday to allow time for reorganisation.

Iran's plan and budget organisation chief, Ali Moftakari, told the radio that the government decided to nationalise private banks because many of their owners had fled abroad and because they "did not play their role in preserving the nation's wealth and rights."

Iran's banks were among the prime targets of anti-Shah demonstrators in the turmoil that led to the monarch's overthrow. Hundreds of bank branches were ransacked in the riots of last year and many had their records destroyed.

There was a huge run on deposits in the last months of the monarchy and many branches went on anti-Shah strikes.

Foreign banking experts estimated the book value of the Iranian private banks at about \$400 million, but said this figure did not reflect the dramatic depreciation of most of their investments.

The government has not so far mentioned compensation and there was no official comment on how the state intended to proceed with the takeover of foreign capital.

Iran's unofficial head of state, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has repeatedly demanded abolition of interest charges on bank loans, saying they were anti-Islamic.

Carter-Brezhnev Vienna summit timetable revealed

VIENNA, June 8 (R) — President Carter and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev will spend about seven hours together in talks at their Vienna meeting, officials said today.

They will meet for the first time on June 15, in an ante-room at the Hofburg Palace, minutes before they pay a joint courtesy call on Austria's President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger.

There will be time only for them to "get acquainted" before they walk into the presidential office for an informal talk expected to last 30 minutes, officials said.

Formal discussions start on Saturday, June 16, at the U.S. embassy.

Mr. Carter will give a dinner in Mr. Brezhnev's honour that night at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Milton Wolf in Vienna's fashionable Hietzing suburb where he is staying.

The talks will continue on Sunday at morning and afternoon sessions at the Soviet embassy, to be followed by a dinner there given by Mr. Brezhnev for the American delegation.

Mr. Carter and Mr. Brezhnev will sign the second U.S./Soviet strategic arms limitation (SALT) treaty at 1 p.m. (1200 GMT) on Monday, June 18, in the Redoutensaal, a 225-year-old former ballroom in the Hofburg, home of Austria's former emperors. They will leave Vienna after the signing.

Dr. Herbert Neumayer, director of the Austrian government press office, told reporters each of the two morning meetings was likely to last about two hours, and the afternoon meetings about 1½ hours each.

Mr. Brezhnev, 72, who has promised an "active and constructive dialogue" at the summit, requested the four sessions after western newspapers reported he was too ill to withstand lengthy negotiations.

King praises Soviet Middle East position

MOSCOW, June 8 (AP) — His Majesty King Hussein, in an interview broadcast here Friday night, praised the Soviet Union for its striving to "establish a lasting and just peace" in the Middle East.

King Hussein told Soviet Television that while the U.S. government engineered the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty which was "unacceptable," the Kremlin has stood fast behind the Arab cause.

"We highly assess the Soviet Union's role and the invariable support it gives to the right cause of the Arab peoples," he said.

"And the constant striving of the Soviet Union to establish lasting and just peace in the

Middle East on the basis of total withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, on the basis of recognition of the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and to the establishment of their own independent state."

The Jordanian and Soviet positions "definitely coincide," he said.

King Hussein accused Israel of refusing to ever give up the Arab lands it captured in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. "It is clear to us all that Israel is seeking stubbornly and purposefully to establish its final domination in the occupied territories and intends to stay there for good," he said.

Sadat's NDP gets 84% of votes

CAIRO, June 8 (R) — President Anwar Sadat's ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) was romping home to victory today in Egypt's first multi-party general election in 27 years.

Premier Mustafa Khalil was among the first candidates returned. Projections based on results published so far, which show 84 per cent of the vote going to the NDP, would give the party 321 of the 382 contested seats in the new parliament. Mr. Sadat appoints a further ten members.

Other prominent members of the government also elected so far included NDP Secretary General and Deputy Premier Fikri Makram Obeid, Justice Minister Ahmed Ali Moussa and Interior Minister Nabawi Ismail.

The election, held yesterday with run-offs next Thursday, was marked by several violent clashes in which two people died and 27 were injured. There were also accusations of vote-rigging.

The most persistent have come from the leftist Unionist Pro-

gressive Party (UPP) which has already lost one of the two seats it held in the previous parliament. It is contesting 31 seats but has won none so far.

The UPP is the only party which opposes the government on all fronts. There were almost 1,000 independents but they do not form a cohesive group having widely divergent views ranging from Marxist to Islamic fundamentalist, or opposition to Egypt's peace treaty with Israel.

But a variety of laws and ministerial orders banned them from campaigning along these lines. The independents have made a poor showing so far and projections give them only about 20 seats.

Mr. Sadat is riding a wave of popular acclaim over the return of the Sinai capital of Al Arish, first fruit of his peace treaty, and the official view is that since the nation voted 99 per cent in favour of the treaty in a referendum in April the subject is closed.

The UPP has issued a variety of statements alleging vote-rigging including one in which it said one of its Alexandria candidates found NDP votes already in the ballot box before the polling station opened.

It also said its representative was ordered out when counting started in the constituency of its leader, Mr. Khaled Mohleddin.

Israel charges French woman with aiding PLO

TEL AVIV, June 8 (AP) — A French woman arrested two weeks ago in occupied Jerusalem has been charged with working for the Palestine Liberation Organisation, a French embassy spokeswoman said today.

Catherine Raoul, 31, a Parisian schoolteacher, is to be tried on charges of contacting the PLO office in Spain and offering to work for the PLO against Israel. No trial date was set.

Two other foreign women are in Israeli jails. Terry Fleener, a 25-year-old American from San Antonio, Texas, was convicted last year of aiding an Arab commando group in Lebanon. Her five year sentence was reduced to 2½ years recently.

Another woman security prisoner, 25-year-old Ludvina Janssen of Breda, the Netherlands, who was arrested in September 1976 on a similar charge, had her six-year term reduced to 4½ years.

Prominent losers included Mahmoud Kadi, leader of the National Front (NFP), the one new party which tried, but failed, to constitute itself before the elections called just over six weeks ago. Mr. Kadi, running as an independent, lost his seat to an NDP candidate.

Dr. Khalil's government remains in power until after the run-offs when he will tender his resignation.

According to Nayef Hawatmeh

Arab mini-summit mooted aimed at sabotaging U.S. ME interests

BEIRUT, June 8 (R) — Arab leaders are discussing plans to hold a mini-summit aimed at sabotaging American interests in the Middle East and denying the United States access to Arab oil, a senior Palestinian leader said today.

Imposing an oil boycott on the U.S. was a major goal of the proposed meeting of the "steadfastness front," Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) leader Nayef Hawatmeh told Reuters.

The front groups Algeria, the Libyan Jamahiriyyah, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), South Yemen and Syria. Only Libya and Algeria among the group are major oil producers, accounting for less than one sixth of Arab oil exports. But Mr. Hawatmeh argued in an interview that if the front imposed an oil boycott, the other Arabs would have to follow their lead.

"When the front approves an oil and gas boycott against the U.S., this would present the other Arab regimes with a fait accompli and compel them to follow suit," Mr. Hawatmeh said.

"The next summit should also demand total rejection of any further American interference in the Middle East dispute," he added.

The front was formed in December 1977 to resist the American-sponsored Egyptian-Israeli peace moves and has held three summit conferences since.

Mr. Hawatmeh said PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was preparing for the summit in current talks in Tripoli with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi. Simi-

Israeli jets blast Palestine targets in south Lebanon

BEIRUT, June 8 (Agencies) — Israeli fighter-bombers blasted Palestinian targets in southern Lebanon today and local residents said nine commandos and a civilian had been wounded.

It was the first Israeli air raid on war-ravaged South Lebanon since United Nations peace-keeping forces there arranged an unofficial ceasefire.

Eyewitnesses said Israeli Phantoms and Skyhawks, swooping down in run after run, bombed a string of villages around the market town of Nabatieh, a major Palestinian stronghold.

Local residents listed four casualties in the hamlet of Jarmaq, east of Nabatieh, three in Habbouch to the west, and three elsewhere.

The air raid came as Palestinian commandos and their left-wing Lebanese allies were withdrawing from the southern part of Tyre and other civilian areas. The pullback, announced last Wednesday, has aimed at averting the threat of Israeli strikes.

The Palestinian News Agency (Wafa) said the Nabatieh area was bombed by heavy artillery in the early afternoon, about 10 hours after the Israeli aircraft returned to base.

Wafa said batteries inside Israel were supporting artillery fire from the belt of Lebanese territory along the border held by Israeli-backed rightist forces under renegade army major Saad Haddad.

Yesterday, Israeli Phantoms criss-crossed Lebanon in what local newspapers described as the most prolonged violation of Lebanese air space to date.

At least 40,000 civilians are estimated to have fled the south since artillery and air bombardments last month.

The Palestinian withdrawal from some areas south of the Litani River appeared to have little military significance. But it was clearly aimed at defusing tension and allowing civilians to return.

Reports from the United Nations last night said the withdrawal had been discussed by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations Yehudo Blum. He was quoted as saying Israel saw no need for a conciliatory gesture in return for the Palestinian announcement.

Right-wingers renew call for early Portugal election

LISBON, June 8 (R) — Portugal's right-wing parties today renewed their call for October elections following the resignation of the six-month-old non-party government of Prime Minister Carlos Mota Pinto.

The demand came from the Centre-right Social Democrats (PSD) and the Conservative Centre Democrats (CDS) as President Antonio Ramalho Eanes began a new round of talks with

political leaders. His aim is to end a political and economic crisis which has persisted since the dismissal of Socialist Prime Minister Mario Soares nearly 11 months ago.

Dr. Soares, Portugal's ruler for two years and secretary-general of the country's largest party, admitted after a two-hour meeting with Gen. Eanes: "The dilemma is whether or not to hold interim elections."

Dr. Soares declined to elaborate on his party's claim to have a democratic alternative which would avert an autumn poll, saying it was too early and he did not want to give away his hand.

In a joint communiqué issued after a meeting of Social and Centre Democratic leaders this morning, the two parties said: "There is no other possible, realistic or patriotic solution than consulting the popular will."

They said they would oppose the formation of any new government — it would be the 11th since the 1947 revolution — before elections.

The Socialists, with 101 of the 263 seats in parliament, have opposed interim elections as a costly last resort. Under the 1976 constitution Portuguese will have to vote in a scheduled general election next year anyway.

Iraq, Syria urge non-aligned countries to isolate Egypt, suspend its membership

COLOMBO, June 8 (R) — Iraq and Syria today urged the non-aligned states to isolate Egypt and suspend its membership of the movement because its peace treaty with Israel violated the principles of non-alignment.

But Egypt, fighting back hard to retain its membership of the movement it helped to found 25 years ago, said it was following the road to peace with the support of the non-aligned nations to prove that Israel was wrong in claiming Arabs only wanted war.

The three Arab states were addressing an open session of the 25-member coordinating bureau preparing for full summit of the non-aligned movement due to be held in Havana next September.

Iraq, Syria, Algeria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had earlier formally asked the ministerial meeting to consider the suspension of Egypt but their move met strong opposition, particularly from black African nations.

Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khadad told the meeting the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty was as much of the forgery as the recent Rhodesian elections. But Egypt's Esmat Abdul Meguid said his country had always supported liberation struggles in Africa.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Saadoun Hammadi charged that the government of Egyptian Pres-

ident Anwar Sadat had become an ally of imperialism and Zionism. It was necessary to isolate the Egyptian government "not as a punishment but to mobilise international public opinion to bring back Egypt to the right track," he said.

The Syrian minister called on member countries, to approve the proposed suspension of Egypt, saying "whoever becomes a friend of Israel and an ally of the United States cannot be one of us."

Mr. Abdul Meguid, Egypt's Permanent Representative at the United Nations, said Egypt would carry on its "combat for peace" in spite of obstacles placed by Israel.

The issue of who should represent Kampuchea (Cambodia) emerged openly for the first time today at a ministerial meeting of the group.

Vietnam delivered a bitter attack on China and the ousted Pol Pot government which Peking backs in Kampuchea and which is still seated at the conference here.

Vietnam Minister of State Nguyen Co Thach said China was preparing for another wave of aggression against Vietnam, threatening to invade Laos and attempting to restore the Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea. Hanoi recognises the new Heng Samrin administration in Phnom Penh.

There was growing feeling in conference circles that ministers would be unable to agree on either issue and both problems would have to be referred to the Havana summit.



Gen. Antonio Ramalho Eanes



Dr. Mario Soares

Pope to address General Assembly

NEW YORK, (AP) — Pope John Paul II "probably is coming to New York to speak to the U.N. General Assembly" when it convenes for its 34th annual meeting in the fall, a prominent Roman Catholic commentator said today.

The Rev. Andrew M. Greeley said his sources in the Vatican had told him "it is just about certain" the Pope would make the trip in October.

Pope Paul VI spoke before the General Assembly when he became the first pope to visit the western hemisphere in October 1965.

Rev. Greeley, a sociologist and a senior study director at the National Opinion Research Centre, made his comment at a news conference.

The Pope is currently visiting his native Poland.

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Responsible Editor:
MOHAMMAD AMAD
Editor:
WILLIAM E. LEE
Managing Editor:
HEMAB TUTUNJI
Senior Editor:
WIAAZ D. SHUKAYR

Board of Directors:
JUMA'A HAMMAD
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MOHAMMAD AMAD
MAHMOUD AL KAYED
Advertising Manager:
FERNANDO FRANCIS

Editorial and advertising offices:
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
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Jordanian, Palestinian delegation to visit Arab states

AMMAN, June 8 (Agencies) -- A Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will soon visit Arab states financing a fund to support the inhabitants of the Israeli-occupied territories, Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh said today.

The Arab summit in Baghdad last November decided to establish the fund and set aside \$150 million for it.

The decision was taken in Jordanian - Palestinian talks concluded in Amman yesterday.

Mr. Abu Odeh, who led the Jordanian side in the talks, did not name the countries to be visited.

The Jordanian - Palestinian joint committee made several decisions designed to strengthen the steadfastness of the populations of the occupied Arab territories, Mr. Abu Odeh said.

Describing the talks as highly successful, a member of the Palestinian side, Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, said the committee has already passed the stage of negotiations and now is drawing up plans for supporting the people in the occupied Arab territories in their steadfastness, and confronting conspiracies against the Arab nation.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Water Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition depicting efficient water usages and developing arid areas. The exhibit can be visited during regular hours.

Ceramics Exhibit

A ceramic exhibition by Mohammad Al Sayed is open during regular hours at the Art Gallery of the Ministry of Culture and Youth.

Theatre

The Amman Players present a comedy entitled "White Sheep of the Family" by L. Garde du Peach and Ian Hay at the Jordan Theatre at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door.

Puppet Show

The Bulgarian Blodiv Group is putting on a puppet show for children at the Palace of Culture. Show times are at 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

TODAY'S WEATHER

There will be fine weather with northwesterly moderate winds. In

Aqaba, there will be northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	low 14	high 29
Aqaba	21	35
Deserts	15	32
Jordan Valley	21	35

Tourism director off to Aden

AMMAN, June 8 (JNA) -- Director of Tourism Michael Hamarneh left for Aden today to represent Jordan at the executive committee meeting of the Arab Tourism Union to start on June 11. The committee will discuss among other subjects a week-long meeting of Egypt's membership union and will draw up a boosting tourism in the world.

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Bloody defiance

IT COMES as no surprise that the decision by the Palestine Liberation Organisation and its Lebanese leftist allies to withdraw from civilian areas of southern Lebanon should have been followed almost immediately by a new Israeli air attack on civilian targets in that same area.

The PLO move was designed to save lives. It was intended as a gesture of goodwill to remove the supposed rationale for Israel's steady and deadly aggression against southern Lebanon in recent weeks. It was also no doubt a tactical decision to enable the commandos to devise ways of affording better protection to the Palestinian refugee inhabitants of southern Lebanon; but the political ramifications of the move at this sensitive time in Middle East diplomacy cannot be denied.

We have said before in this space that Lebanon looks designated to become the testing ground of Israel's strategy for disposing of the Palestinian issue militarily while the Camp David process disposes of it politically.

Despite emergency U.N. Security Council meetings and the imposition of U.N.-sponsored ceasefires on the ground, there has been insufficient effort by the international community even to acknowledge, much less to try and stop, Israel's naked aggression against Lebanon at virtually the same time as the Israelis are implementing a peace treaty with Egypt.

If Israel's blatant use of military power against a defenceless and already devastated civilian population cannot stir the world's conscience, then what hope is there for arousing that same conscience on the issue of Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank? Following the Israeli cabinet's approval of the expropriation of some 1,000 dunams of privately-owned Arab land to build a huge new Jewish settlement (with a planned population ultimately of 100,000) at Nablus, bulldozers have been flown in by helicopter to get the construction of the settlement started. This is aggression, too, though it apparently does not appear to the world that way.

Appeals to world opinion have a way of being futile as far as Israel is concerned. Israel is already acting in violation of the U.N. ceasefire, creating little hope that another Security Council session next Tuesday will have any effect. Israel is an outlaw state which feels free to defy the will of the international community with impunity. Such outlaws invariably are brought to heel eventually. A strategy must be devised to hasten that eventually.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

THE JORDANIAN PRESS Friday comments on His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Algeria which ended Thursday and on the joint communique released after the visit.

Referring to the two countries' call on Arab and Islamic states to halt Israeli attempts to Judaize Arab Jerusalem and change the city's character, AL RA'I newspaper says agreement on the subject between the leaders of Jordan and Algeria must now be put into practice, and further efforts which entail sacrifice on the part of Arab and Islamic nations must be exerted towards achieving this goal.

The communique stresses the necessity for implementing the Baghdad summit resolutions and reiterates Arab rejection of the Camp David agreements; the paper says the Arab citizen now expects to see tangible results of Arab and Islamic efforts to save Jerusalem and the other parts of usurped Arab land.

By conveying to the Algerian leaders various aspects of the Middle East issue and explaining the problem of Jerusalem, King Hussein has again demonstrated his keenness on rallying the Arab and Islamic solidarity necessary to confront all challenges imposed on the Arab Nation by the Zionist aggression and foreign ambitious designs, the paper writes.

It expresses belief that Algeria, which in the past made so many sacrifices in her struggle for independence and on the Arab-Israeli front as well, will not hesitate in the future to extend its assistance to sister Arab countries for the sake of recovering the occupied Arab territories.

Describing the joint communique as a positive indication of Arab solidarity, AL DUSTOUR newspaper says that while expressing an identity of views on the subjects discussed, the communique also displays the depth of the Arab Nation's tenacity and a consensus on committing Arab resources to the common cause. The communique re-emphasises the Arab Nation's outright rejection of "capitulation solutions" and a continuous support for the Palestinian struggle; it voices firm opposition to foreign intervention and calls for Arab and Islamic action to stop Israel from Judaizing the city of Jerusalem, says the paper.

In addition, the communique reflects the fact that the Arab Nation continues to adhere firmly to the Baghdad summit resolutions in the face of all pressures and challenges.

On the other hand, the paper refers to a clause in the communique stressing the need for a speedy political solution to the Western Sahara problem. The settlement of that issue does not only prevent a further shedding of Arab blood, but also preserves the potentials of the Nation's western wing, says the paper.

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For further information the secretary of the Tender's Committee at the JVA can be contacted at:

Phone: 41472 / 41473

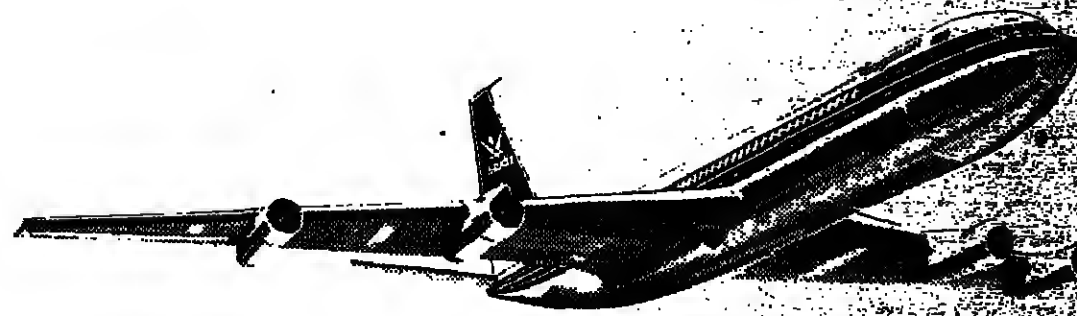
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EXHIBITS

June 9: "The World of Colour in the Books of" an exhibition of book covers at the Arab Cultural Centre, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily except Friday.

June 10: An exhibition of sketches, water colours and youth goes on view at the Exhibition Gallery of National Museum, Hours: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; 2 - 4 p.m. daily.

June 15: "Postcards of Paris" is the title of an open with a 6:30 p.m. reception at the French Cultural Centre. The collection of 150 historical Parisian travel continues to June 10.

June 10: Engravings by Syrian artist Abdul Karim to Thursday at Al Sha'b Gallery. A professor of Academy of Damascus University, Mr. Faraj ship for specialised training in etching at the Fine of Warsaw, Poland following his graduation from cademy of Damascus University in 1970. He made in exhibition at Al Sha'b Gallery in 1973 and he a 1977 exhibition in Warsaw, and the Intergraphic German Democratic Republic in 1975. He also 72 for the Pan-Arab Youth Exhibit in Algeria in were shown along with the sculptures of Ahmad 978 in Sopot, Poland. Hours: 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., except Fridays.

June 11: The "Waterways of Syria" and "The Trans-are on view to Tuesday at the French Cultural

LECTURES

June 11: In conjunction with Libyan Literary on poetry and short stories will be given at 6 p.m. Cultural Centre (in Arabic).

June 12: A lecture on the contemporary literary Libya will be given at 6 p.m. at the Arab Cultural iblet.

VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMMES

June 13: "Fryncois Mauriac, La Sagouin," ed at 6:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in

June 15: In conjunction with the Postcards of Paris French Cultural Centre will be showing pro- about the month dealing with quarters of Paris. The on will focus on Les Champs Elysees and Pigalle at French).

THEATRE

June 15: The Damascus Theatre Group will begin n of Noel Coward's improbable farce, "Blithe

Spirit," at 7:30 p.m. at the Damascus Community School. Tickets are available at the door.

Fred Kunst of the Dutch embassy is directing the comedy which deals with a playwright, Charles, who wants to write about the occult. He decides to do some research by inviting a local medium, Mme. Arcati, to dinner and a seance thereafter. The playwright's first wife, who died seven years before, responds to the seance as a blithe spirit bent on getting her husband back forever.

Diane Youbely is cast as Mme. Arcati, while Gary McDonald stars as Charles. Others in the cast are Bill Noble as Dr. Bradman, Diane Holyoak as Mrs. Bradman, Jackie Hughes as Elvira, Arlene Didier as Ruth and Kay Robinson as Edith.

Tryouts for DTG's next production, H.M.S. Pinare are still being held. Anyone caring to participate, back or onstage, is requested to phone Joe or Mary McElrose at 332-814 or 332-315.

ENTERTAINMENT

SUNDAY, June 11: The live show with Ballet Brillat and the five-person 1 Melodist Orchestra begins poolside dinner entertainment in the new La Ghouta Restaurant of the Meridien Hotel.

FILMS

SATURDAY, June 9: The French Cultural Centre will be presenting a monthlong festival of films illustrating the New Wave movement of French films which depict man's dilemma in copine with the technological age after World War II. The first of these films is "Les Dernieres Vacances," a 1948 production directed by Roger Leenhardt and starring Berthe Bovy, Pierre Dux and Odile Versois. The film, which will be shown at 7:30 p.m., deals with a teenaged caretaker and his relationship with the granddaughter of the owners of the estate he is employed by (in French, Arabic subtitles).

SUNDAY, June 10: "The Annual Shop in the Sky," a comedy about women parachutists, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the German Democratic Cultural Centre (in German, Arabic subtitles).

MONDAY, June 11: A series of short films by the Syrian director Nabil Maleh will be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre with a discussion to follow (in Arabic).

MONDAY, June 11, and THURSDAY, June 14: "Les Cousins," a 1958 film directed by Claude Chabrol will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Monday and 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the French Cultural Centre. This well received film represents the first commercial success of a New Wave French film and deals with the life of two young people living in a province of France. It stars Berthe Bovy, Pierre Dux and Odile Versois (in French, Arabic subtitles).

TUESDAY, June 11: The German Democratic Republic Cultural Centre will present a documentary film at 6:30 p.m. in honour of Teacher's Day (in German, Arabic subtitles).

WEDNESDAY, June 13: "The Chess Trainer" entitles a film to be shown at 7 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in Russian, Arabic subtitles).

FRIDAY, June 15: "The Black Virgin" is the title of a film to



Cast for "Blithe Spirit" (from left, back row) Eili Noble, Diana Holyoak, Diane Youbely, (front row) Arlene Didier, Gary MacDonald, Jackie Hughes and Kay Robinson warm up for Saturday's first night performance of a three-day run at Damascus Community School.

be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre on Khoshtan. If you have items for the Damascus-Soviet Column, please scan them ten days in advance to Pat McDonnell, P.O. Box 3001, Damascus, Syria.



An untitled engraving by Abdul Karim Faraj on view in a one-man show at Al Sha'b Gallery through Thursday.

THIRD RACE 4.30 P.M. FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1,600 METRES

1. Rashid Oudih	TAJELAROUS	Jazza	Deed	56
2. Naief El Khashman	EL ZEER	Bilon	Radwan	56
3. Naief El Khashman	R. ELBARY	Bilon	Nasreldin	52.5
4. Ghalib Haddadin	M. AYSAR	Owner	Salamir	56
5. Ghalib Haddadin	ABU SHAMAH	Owner	Hilmy	50
6. Sharif Naser Ibn Jamil Stable	MARZOUK	M. Hanna	Ibrahim	54
7. Kittanib & Abd El Maseeh	ASRAR	Owner	Fawwaz	54
8. A. Sokout & Ibrahim	WARD	Owner	Mousa	54

FOURTH RACE 5.00 P.M. FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1,000 METRES

1. Rashid Oudih	MORJAN	Jazza	Salan	56
2. Ghalib Haddadin	BAYADIR	Owner	Salamir	54
3. Falek Kawa	H. ELWAFI	Saifeldin	Deed	52.5
4. Kittanib & Abd El Maseeh	AMALI	Owner	Fawwaz	54
5. Khalaf El Khawiy	KHATTAR	Owner	Mousa	54
6. Sami Madros	AMIRELDAR	Owner	Armed	54
7. Bahjat Fanous	EL RAKIB	Owner	Salan	54
8. Naief El Khashman	HILAL EL SALT	Bilon	Radwan	52
9. Naief El Khashman	EL ZABIEH	Bilon	Nasreldin	50.5

FIFTH RACE 5.30 P.M. FOR SECOND CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1,400 METRES

1. Bahjat Fanous	FAWWAR	Owner	Salah	56
2. A. Sokout & Ibrahim	MABROKAH	Owner	Ahmad	54.5
3. A. Sokout & Ibrahim	B. ELJAZIRAH	Owner	Mousa	50
4. Mishrif El Aifan	F. ABBAS	Owner	Atieh	54
5. Mousa Salamir	OPELLO	Kamal	Radwan	52
6. Dr. Marwan Kamal	SHAHIM	Owner	Mostafa	52
7. Sharif Naser Ibn Jamil Stable	SHIMA'A	M. Hanna	Ibrahim	50.5
8. Ghalib Haddadin	M. ELSIBAK	Owner	Deed	50
9. Ghalib Haddadin	SINDAH	Owner	Salamir	50

RACE 4:00 P.M. INNER HORSES 1,000 METRES

Thamir El Faiez & Abd El Maseeh	EL MONTASIR	Kamal	Radwan	54
haiwy	GHAREEB	Kamal	Fawwaz	54
Adwan	F. ELSABBAH	Owner	Ahmad	54
lama'ni	M. THAIER	Owner	Mousa	52.5
war	EL MOGHIRAH	Owner	N. Eldin	52.5
tam El Majali	N. ELMIDAN	Saifeldin	Deed	51
aser Ibn	GHASIK	Ali	Thmeen	50
able	GHOBAR	M. Hanna	Ibrahim	50
Haddadin	FIRJIH	Owner	Salamir	49.5

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aser Ibn	EL GHOF	M. Hanna	Dalallah	54
able	MISHAAL	Saifeldin	Deed	54
sous	ANTAR	Owner	Fawwaz	51
war	AMAYOLA	Owner	Radwan	49.5
El Sanie	EL HASNA	Owner	Ahmad	45.5
Ghalainy				
anous				

Scotland downs Norway in soccer

OSLO, June 8 (R)—Scotland kept alive their hopes of qualifying for next year's final stages of the European Soccer Championship by convincingly beating Norway 4-0 here last night. Portugal lead qualifying group two, three points ahead of Scotland, but the Scots will play three of their last four matches at home against Austria, Belgium, and the Portuguese.

The Scots dominated the match, crashing home three goals before half-time. Kenny Dalglish snapped the ball from a Norwegian defender in the 32nd minute, and passed for Joe Jordan to score easily. Dalglish went free again seven minutes later and hit home a low shot beyond the reach of Norwegian goalkeeper Tom Jacobsen to make it 2-0. John Robertson, receiving a superb pass from left back Ian Munro, put the ball between the legs of Jacobson to give the jubilant Scots a commanding 3-0 lead at the interval.

The fine Scottish play continued in the second half. Dalglish nearly scored after 52 minutes when he hit the bar, but Gordon McQueen made the fourth goal two minutes later when he perfectly headed home a corner from Robertson. "This was a good result but it was a better Norwegian team we beat 3-2 at Hampden Park in Glasgow last October," Scottish manager Jock Stein said after the match. "I think Portugal are the best team in this group," Stein added.

Former racing champion retires

LONDON, June 8 (R)—Britain's James Hunt, world motor racing champion in 1976, announced tonight that he had quit the formula one circuit. The 31 year-old Hunt had been expected to retire from motor racing at the end of the season, but has decided that his Wolf car is not competitive enough. Hunt shot to fame and fortune when he clinched the world championship for McLaren three years ago. He won ten Grand Prix, his last success being in the 1977 Japanese formula one race. The British driver failed to win a race last year and at the beginning of this season switched to the burning wreckage of his Lotus after a pile-up at the start of the Italian Grand Prix. Hunt's racing career started with Britain's Lord Hesketh and he finished fourth in the 1975 drivers' championship. When Hesketh pulled out of motor racing the blond Englishman switched to McLaren and clinched the world title a year later. Hunt, who lives in Spain and is reputed to be a millionaire, said last October his aim was to be champion in 1979 so that he could "go out of motor racing on a high note."

Sweden beats Luxembourg

MALMOE, Sweden, June 8 (R)—Sweden chalked up their first win in qualifying group five of the European Soccer Championships with a comfortable victory over Luxembourg here last night. Anders Groenhagen put Sweden 1-0 up after 15 minutes and Tore Cervin, who last week was in Malmoe's losing European Cup final side against England's Nottingham Forest, headed a second in the 29th minute.

Luxembourg, without a win in the group, which also includes France and leaders Czechoslovakia, struggled hard to contain Sweden but went 3-0 down in the 54th minute. Mats Nordgren was hauled down in the penalty area and Hans Borg scored from the spot. Luxembourg's best chance came in the 62nd minute when Marcel di Domenico's shot was superbly saved by goalkeeper Ronnie Helstrom. The winners of the seven qualifying groups will join hosts Italy in the quarter-finals next year.

Borg quickly beats Gerulaitis

PARIS, June 8 (AP)—Bjorn Borg beat Vitas Gerulaitis 6-2, 6-1, 6-0 with a masterly display of clay court tennis Friday and raced into the final of the French Championships. The match on the centre court of the Roland Gargos Stadium was watched by 17,000 and was all over in 1 hour 20 minutes. It was the eleventh meeting between the two men and Borg has won every time. In Sunday's final, for a first prize of \$49,000, Borg will meet Jimmy Connors or Paraguay's Victor Pecci, who were contesting the second semi-final later Friday.

Shriver reaches Beckenham semi-finals

BECKENHAM, England, June 8 (AP)—Pam Shriver, the hard-hitting 16-year-old American, dropped only one game Friday, trouncing her doubles partner, Betsy Nagelsen, to reach the semi-finals of the Beckenham Grass Court Tennis Championship. Shriver needed only 40 minutes to defeat Nagelsen 6-1, 6-0 in a gain-delayed quarter-final.

Finland defeats Denmark

KOTKA, Finland, June 8 (R)—Finland beat Denmark 4-1 (halftime 2-0) in an Olympic qualifying soccer match here last night.

Three favoured for Oaks Classic

LONDON, June 8 (R)—With well-backed Troy winning the Epsom Derby on Wednesday, bookmakers are holding many menacing-looking double commitments on the derby winner and L'ile du Reve, favourite for tomorrow's Oaks Classic for fillies. There is a providence which usually rescues the layers from these situations, and at least L'ile du Reve will have two prominent challengers, Rimosa's Pet and Godetia, who could save the bookmakers from digging too deep into their satchels. These three fillies appear to dominate the field for the classic, run over the derby course and distance of one mile four furlongs and carrying a winner's purse of 47,310 sterling (about \$95,000.) L'ile du Reve, owned by French art dealer Daniel Wildenstein but trained in England by Henry Cecil, has scored two very easy victories this season, one of them over the Oaks distance. She has yet to face top-class opposition, but there is great stable confidence in her ability.

Greville Starkey, who last year rode the winners of the English and Irish Derby and Oaks Classics, could well gain consolation for Ela-Mana-Mou's defeat in Wednesday's derby by taking the Oaks on Rimosa's Pet. Trained by Michael Stoute, for whom Starkey captured last year's race on Fair Salimia, Rimosa's Pet has won at Epsom and so should not be subject to the fate of so many good horses which fail to act on this unique track. She later showed real class when accelerating like an electric train to win the Musidora Stakes, an important classic trial at York. Irish-trained Godetia, the only filly in the field with a classic victory already to her credit, won the Irish 1,000 Guineas comfortably last month and will have Epsom specialist Lester Piggott in the saddle.

Chinese weightlifter breaks record

HONG KONG, June 8 (R)—Chinese weightlifter Chen Weiqiang set a world record when he jerked 151.5 kilos in the 56 kilo category in Shanghai today, the New China News Agency said. The agency said the 25-year-old Chen broke the world record of 151 kilos by Mohammed Nassiri of Iran in 1973 at a national weightlifting competition in the east China city.

W. German wins chess match

LUCERNE, Switzerland, June 8 (AP)—West Germany's Robert Huebner won his last game in the final pool of the European zone 11 chess tournament Thursday night and qualified for one of the interzonal meets for the world chess title.

"Lionheart" sets sail

"Lionheart", the new British 12 metre yacht built by a consortium for next year's America's Cup Race, has its first outing on the Solent, southern England. The 1979 schedule for "Lionheart" includes intensive tuning trials and an appearance at the Brighton Boat Show in May. She will also be shipped to Sweden, to race against the 12 metre "Sverige" smelter, America's Cup defender. In September both yachts will compete in the 12 metre World Championships to be staged at Brighton in southern England. (COI photo)

Yacht racing results

WEYMOUTH, England, June 8 (R)—Four overseas yachtsmen took linehonours in racing yesterday, sixth day of the Olympic Sailing Week off Weymouth. Spain headed two classes—Antonio Gorostegui in the star and Alejandro Abascal the flying Dutchman. France also claimed two winners, Laurent Delage and the 470s and Patrick Haegh the soling class. In the tomorrow's British champion Reg White was followed home by his son Robert.

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Carter bars the lifting of economic sanctions on Zimbabwe Rhodesia

WASHINGTON, June 8 (R)—President Carter barred the lifting of U.S. economic sanctions against Zimbabwe Rhodesia last night saying the elections that brought the country's first black prime minister to power had not been fair or free.

Mr. Carter announced his decision under a U.S. law calling on him to end sanctions if he determined the new government was chosen fairly and freely and was willing to negotiate with the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance fighting it.

In a statement he personally read to reporters, Mr. Carter said the elections had been held under a constitution drafted and approved by only the white minority in Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

He said that sanctions would therefore be maintained, although he promised to keep the matter under review.

However, efforts will be made in the Congress to force Mr. Carter to lift the sanctions.

The first challenge to his policy is expected next week in the Senate, which is already on record as overwhelmingly opposing sanctions. Senators will consider legislation compelling Mr. Carter to lift them.

Similar moves were pending in

Kennedy: I may run for president if Carter steps down

AMSTERDAM, June 8 (R)—Senator Edward Kennedy was quoted today as saying he might run for president next year but only if Jimmy Carter stepped down.

"If President Carter does not seek a second term, it is not excluded that I will put my name forward, but it is very probable that Mr. Carter will try to extend his mandate," the Massachusetts democrat said in an interview published in the Dutch weekly magazine Nieuwsnet.

"He added: 'I have absolutely no desire to get involved in a duel with him (Carter). If he is a candidate I will support him.'"

During speech at Harvard Schmidt urges Senate to approve Salt II

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts, June 8 (R)—Warning that the 1980s will be a decade of unrest, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt last night urged the United States to approve the Salt II treaty with the Soviet Union or face a fierce nuclear arms race.

In a speech at Harvard University, Dr. Schmidt also declared that the unification of Germany could only come after a long period of peace.

In his speech accepting an honorary Harvard degree, Mr. Schmidt gave a major boost to president Carter's efforts to convince the U.S. Senate to accept without modification the new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

No people in Europe would be more seriously affected by the consequences of the failure of Salt II than the German people," the chancellor said.

He added: "Failure of Salt II would be a setback for the policy of détente and the ongoing arms control efforts. Instead of the universally sought curbing of the nuclear arms race we would face an even fiercer arms race."

He also said the failure of Salt II would be a signal to the East which would weaken the political elements there which favour reconciliation and understanding with the West.

He told Harvard's graduating students they must expect the 1980s to be a decade of unrest.

"This unrest must be restricted and controlled as far as possible so that it does not discharge itself in serious conflicts," he said.

"There can only be security for both sides simultaneously and this means the renunciation of military superiority."

But he cautioned that the renunciation of military superiority must not mean the West should accept military inferiority.

Conference in Lusaka in August. In Salisbury, Zimbabwe Rhodesia's new Prime Minister Abel Muzorewa reacted angrily today to President Carter's decision, saying it was a shocking act of political expediency and double standards.

Bishop Muzorewa told reporters: "I am deeply shocked by the decision of President Carter to maintain punitive sanctions against my government and the people of Zimbabwe Rhodesia."

"It would be hard to think of a more blatant example of political expediency and of double standards and it is astonishing that it should come from a president of the United States who claims to be a champion of human rights."

"I can only hope that the will and judgement of the people of the United States will be more accurately reflected and expressed by their elected representatives in Congress," he added.

Ghana to delay civilian rule for 3 months

ACCRA, June 8 (R)—Ghana's new military government said today that general elections will be held as scheduled on June 18 but that handover to civilian rule will be delayed by at least three months. The decision was announced at a meeting in Accra between members of the armed forces revolutionary council and leaders of political parties and independent candidates.

General Fred Akuffo, the previous military ruler ousted by a group of low-ranking military personnel on Monday, had pledged to reinstate civilian government on July 1 for the first time since 1972.

They include Nigeria, a major supplier of U.S. oil imports. Congressional experts on Africa believe that Nigeria will retaliate swiftly if sanctions are lifted although initially it would not block the oil supplies.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told reporters the question of Nigerian oil had not influenced Mr. Carter's decision which he said concerned a matter of deep principle.

Mr. Carter said he decided against lifting sanctions after consulting the British Conservative government, which itself has delayed a decision on sanctions until after the Commonwealth

Little enthusiasm shown by voters for EEC Parliament

BRUSSELS, June 8 (R)—Voters who bothered to turn out in four European countries for the first direct elections to the Common Market's Parliament settled down today to a three-day wait for the count.

People in the other five EEC states do not vote until Sunday and the ballots cannot be counted anywhere until the last polling station closes in Italy at 2100 GMT that night.

So the results of yesterday's polls in Britain, Denmark, Ireland and the Netherlands will remain a tightly-guarded secret until Monday morning. Sunday's voting takes place in West Germany, France, Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Reports of polling yesterday show little enthusiasm for the EEC's showpiece event.

Observers in Britain and Denmark estimated a turnout of less than 50 per cent, compared with 76 per cent in the election which swept Conservative

leader Margaret Thatcher to power in London last month.

Even the Dutch, traditionally keen Europeans, managed an estimated turnout of only 58 per cent. And the Irish figure was also predicted to be under 60 per cent.

The low turnout was seen partly as a reflection of the fact that the directly-elected parliament, like the old assembly of members appointed by national parliaments, remains mainly consultative.

It cannot pass laws or form a government, although it has limited control over the EEC's \$19 billion budget and has the power to sack the 13-man commission.

In Britain, the low turnout and the first-past-the-post voting system was expected to give the ruling Conservative Party victory by a large margin. On the May general election figures they would win 49 seats to Labour's 29.

Nicaraguan guerrillas may be preparing assault on Managua

MANAGUA, June 8 (R)—Guerrillas fighting the government of General Anastasio Somoza in Nicaragua today appeared to be laying the groundwork for a possible assault on the capital Managua.

Witnesses reported that five cities under the partial control of Sandinist guerrillas who launched a full-scale rebellion 11 days ago.

Fierce fighting raged on through the night in Masaya, a town of 20,000 people only 26 kilometres southeast of Managua. Air force planes strafed guerrilla

positions within the city yesterday.

Political observers said it seemed unlikely that the guerrillas would be able to capture the national guard command post there. They said there were hundreds of government soldiers defending the town.

There was no indication of how many guerrillas were taking part in the attack on Masaya, nor of the number of casualties.

But one resident told Reuters by telephone: "We cannot stick our noses out of the windows because the shooting is so intense. I can tell you the situation is horrible here."

General Somoza declared a state of siege throughout the country two days ago, and a curfew has been imposed.

There were contradictory reports about the key city of Leon, Nicaragua's second largest city.

Correspondents visiting Leon yesterday said it was mostly in guerrilla hands, but national guard sources said it had been recaptured.

Residents of Diriamba, a city

only 36 kilometres from the capital, said it too was under heavy guerrilla attack.

But a general strike called by the guerrillas was showing signs of crumbling as it entered its fifth day. More buses appeared in the streets of the capital yesterday although stores remained closed.

Police capture hijacker in Australia

BRISBANE, Australia, June 8 (R)—Police captured an armed hijacker and freed unharmed the six crew members he was holding aboard an Australian airliner here today. Police did not say how they captured the man who hijacked the Trans-Australian Airlines DC-9 shortly before it landed here. He had earlier been persuaded by the pilot to free the 41 passengers. The hijacker wanted the plane to continue flying, but the pilot convinced him there was not enough fuel.

Residents of Diriamha, a city

At next OPEC meeting Iran to push for oil price boost

TEHRAN, June 8 (R)—Iran has indicated it will press for another oil price increase at the next OPEC meeting on June 26 in Geneva.

National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) chairman Hassan Nazih said at a press conference last night that it was Iran's policy to seek higher oil prices.

He thought Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), traditional OPEC doves, would also ask for an increase at the Geneva Conference.

Mr. Nazih said Iran proposed the last OPEC increase at the organisation's Geneva meeting in March but he did not know what the new price would be.

"Compare the price of a barrel of oil with that of a bottle of mineral water and you will realise how cheap oil still is. The Western world is just kicking up a fuss about nothing," Mr. Nazih said.

The NIOC chairman, who said Iran's oil exports were now running at around 3.2 million barrels a day, reiterated that the country's new policy was to decrease rather than increase oil exports.

He repeated a previous statement that Iran was ultimately aiming at freeing its economy from dependence on oil.

Giving a complete breakdown of the countries which were buying Iranian oil on nine-month term contracts, Mr. Nazih said 32 per cent of oil exports were going

to the United States, 18 per cent to Japan and 16 per cent to Britain.

Mr. Nazih said Algeria, the Libyan Jamahiriya and Iraq had agreed to decrease their production at last March's OPEC meeting in order to allow Iran to regain its market share. Iran resumed oil exports on March 5 after a 10-week break.

Iran has twice raised the price of its oil since fixing the term contract value of its crude supplies last April. Iranian light crude now costs \$18.47 a barrel and heavy fetches \$17.74 a barrel.

Under the Shah, Iran's oil output reached 6.5 million barrels a day, making the country the world's second highest exporter after Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Nazih said the government of Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan now determined the level of Iranian crude production.

Mr. Nazih said the fluctuations of the dollar's value on foreign exchange markets was "perhaps another reason why there should be another price increase." The U.S. dollar is the main currency in which oil is traded.

"Our policy is in favour of an oil price rise, but prior to the (June 26) Geneva OPEC meeting, we will have a meeting with the government and Dr. Bazargan to decide what Iran's policy should be. We will also have a session with the OPEC oil ministers prior to the conference," he said.

Pope visits remains of Nazi slaughter camp in Poland

KRAKOW, Poland, June 8 (R)—Pope John Paul, praying amid the stark remains of Auschwitz concentration camp, has declared that respect for human rights is the lesson to be drawn from the extermination there of four million people.

At a mass attended by half a million Polish Catholics, the pontiff said the camp, in which the Nazi Germans slaughtered prisoners during World War II, was built in the name of a crazed ideology.

But the pope, in one of his most outspoken statements on human rights, warned that man was still capable of trampling on man.

"It is enough to put man in a different uniform, arm him with the apparatus of violence. It is enough to impose on him an ideology in which human rights are subjected to the demands of the system, completely subjected to them, so as in practice not to exist at all," he said.

The pontiff, speaking from a raised altar which looked over the desolate landscape of brick huts, crumbling wooden watchtowers and rusted barbed wire fences, lowered his voice as he spoke. After a hush, the crowd applauded.

The statement followed a series of earlier speeches in the pontiff's nine-day tour of his homeland in which he has spelt out bluntly the church's demands for greater freedom in this Communist-ruled nation.

His bold political stand, combined with a mass turnout at his public appearances, has evidently embarrassed the government. Officials have commented with surprise on the amount of politics in his speeches.

Today the pope travels to Nowy Targ in a hill region south of here where he often skied and walked in his younger days.

Iran buys 10,000 tons of lamb from Australia

PERTH, Australia, June 8 (AP)—The Australian Lamb Marketing Board has signed a contract to sell 10,000 tons of lamb worth nearly 20 million Australian dollars to Iran.

The contract is believed to be the largest single contract for Australian lamb ever made. The deal was finalised in Tehran today by the board's general manager, M. Mosporan, and directors of the Iran Meat Organisation, the purchasing agency for all meats imported by the Iranian government. The parties had been negotiating for almost two months.

Under the contract arrangements, shipments would start almost immediately. The first 2,300 tons would leave Australia by the end of the month.

Astronomers discover two oases on Mars

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island, June 8 (R)—U.S. astronomers have discovered evidence of two giant oases on Mars, which is otherwise bone-dry. Data from a telescope on Earth and from water detection devices aboard two Viking spacecraft orbiting Mars showed that water was evaporating from the two sites near the planet's equator, they said.

The environment at the two places appeared "more hospitable than some of the extreme environments on earth where microorganisms have been found to thrive," said Dr. Robert Huggen, one of the scientists. If life existed, he said, it would probably be underground, protected from the sun's deadly radiation which is not screened out by the planet's thin atmosphere.

Mexico: Oil rig blaze still unchecked

MEXICO CITY, June 8 (R)—An offshore oil well in the Gulf of Mexico has turned into a flaming torch which could take three months to bring under control, officials of the Mexican state oil company Pemex, said last night.

They said about 30,000 barrels of oil were being lost daily — 15,000 barrels spewing into the sea and the rest being consumed by the uncontrollable blaze.

A spokesman said Pemex had made no request so far for foreign assistance, "but of course the situation could change overnight."

The fire broke out on Sunday at a well in Campeche Bay about 80 kilometres northeast of Carmen City. No casualties were reported.

Need for a unified air traffic control system

By Jack Gee

Hundreds of thousands of holidaymakers are threatened again this summer with being stranded at European airports by the air traffic delays which made last year's vacations such a miserable memory.

Air traffic controllers in France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Germany and Morocco have already given warning that they could soon "work to rule"—thus handling a set number of flights an hour—in order to obtain better wages and working conditions.

The controllers in these countries are responsible for routing over 90 per cent of airborne holiday travel to destinations in Europe's Mediterranean sunshine belt and North Africa. So their threat is pregnant with gloom for the tourists.

Since the bulk of this traffic crosses French and Spanish airspace, the situation in these two countries holds the key to the crisis.

France, particularly, is a major crossroads for traffic between Europe and the United States and from England and Scandinavia to Spain. Overflights account for 40 per cent of all movements in French airspace.

The problem is of special concern at Bordeaux, one of four centres handling air traffic over France and which interface with

the Spanish control system. The Spaniards allowed between six and seven flights an hour into their air space from France in 1977. Last year they lowered this figure to four. This summer it is likely to drop again.

In March this year the number of flights into Spain which were delayed during weekends by more than 15 minutes—the official yardstick for measuring "time performance"—by airlines—was slightly higher than a year ago. If trade union-backed slowdowns are introduced during the next few weeks, these delays are bound to increase.

Spanish air controllers say their long-standing grievances about low pay and poor equipment remain unresolved. New radar in Barcelona, one of three Spanish centres which handle flights between Britain and the Balearic Islands resorts, has improved its ability to handle more movements. But the Madrid and Seville centres are still below international standard.

French controllers say their demands are being stonewalled by an adamant government. But the French civil aviation authority (DGAC) replies that it is the controllers who are being unreasonable.

France has 2,500 controllers, of whom 1,500 work in airport control towers. The most important aerial navigation centre is Paris

with 520 controllers, followed by Aix-en-Provence near Marseilles with 257 for the south-eastern quadrant.

Then comes Bordeaux for the south-west with 170 and Brest's 140 controllers for the north-west. Last year the French Government hired 48 controllers, and it plans to take on 108 more this year and another 111 in 1980.

But the controllers complain that the north-eastern quadrant is overloaded and will remain so until the Paris centre is relieved in 1982, when a new traffic centre is scheduled to open in Reims.

Their unions also blame the government for trying to introduce military controllers into civilian control towers. This was the weapon with which the authorities tried to smash a prolonged go-slow by controllers six years ago. The move was discredited when two Spanish airlines collided over Nantes, eastern France, with the loss of 69 lives. An official French report found a military controller was to blame.

There have been rumblings at Marseilles' Marseilles Airport, where the authorities say a military controller is needed to separate civilian traffic from military aircraft in a cluttered corridor close to an air force training school and a test flight centre. In April, controllers at Basle-Mulhouse Airport astride the border with

The tremendous growth in air travel in recent years makes it increasingly urgent for European countries to agree on a unified air traffic control system. Their failure to do so will be rued this summer by many thousands of stranded, frustrated tourists.

Switzerland occupied the control tower for several days in protest against a reduction of staff on night shifts.

The French Ministry of Transport says its controllers are trained to handle up to 20 movements simultaneously in any given sector. But the controllers prove that 12 ought to be the maximum. This looks like being the tactic which they will adopt this summer.

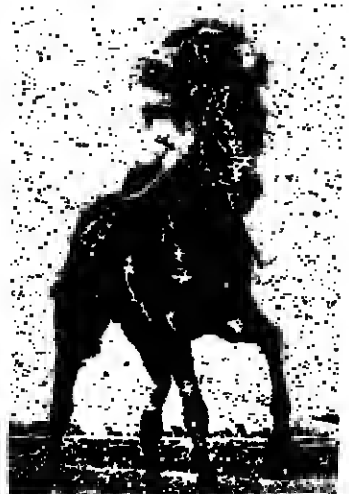
Individual governments say their traffic control systems work well and their controllers are merely being awkward. But Knut Hammarskjöld, director general of the International Air Transport Association (IATA), disagrees.

Mr. Hammarskjöld said recently: "The implementation of navigational aids, radar and other infrastructure equipment is effected on a national basis without sufficient inter-European co-ordination." He called for European countries to create a pan-European air traffic control authority with power to develop an "effective, integrated, overall air traffic system."

Jean-Marie Giraud, deputy director of navigation at France's

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